

Message Text

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ACTION OPIC-06

INFO OCT-01 EA-09 ISO-00 EB-07 AID-05 /028 W

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P 310846Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9636

UNCLAS MANILA 13280

FOR OPIC GRAHAM WILLIAMS

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: AGRIBUSINESS

REF: STATE 210617

1. LETTER DATED JUNE 7, 1976, FROM SECRETARY TANCO EVIDENTLY NEVER REACHED MUELLER. LETTER READS AS FOLLOWS:
QUOTE. DEAR MR. MUELLER: I AM HAPPY TO HEAR THAT AN AGRIBUSINESS INVESTMENTS PROGRAM WAS DISCUSSED AND AGREED ON BY YOUR GROUP - THE AGRIBUSINESS COUNCIL, THE OVERSEAS PRIVATE INVESTMENT CORPORATION, AND MY ASSISTANT SECRETARY MIGUEL M. ZOSA ON HIS TRIP TO WASHINGTON, D.C. LAST APRIL. THE STIPULATIONS IN THE PROGRAM SEEM BROAD ENOUGH TO COVER MOST SECTORS OF AGRICULTURE AND YET DETAILED ENOUGH FOR AN IN-DEPTH APPRECIATION OF POSSIBLE OPPORTUNITIES AND PROBLEMS WHICH COULD BE ENCOUNTERED. I AM THEREFORE EXTENDING AN INVITATION TO THE AGRIBUSINESS COUNCIL, INC., TO SEND AN OFFICIAL GROUP TO THE PHILIPPINES PREFERABLY AFTER THE MIDDLE OF AUGUST WHICH WILL UNDERTAKE THE STEPS FOR FINALIZING AGRIBUSINESS INVESTMENT PROPOSALS. VERY TRULY YOURS, ARTURO R. TANCO, JR. SECRETARY. END
QUOTE.

2. WHEN EMBASSY FOLLOWED UP, ASSISTANT SECRETARY ZOSA EXPRESSED HIS REGRETS SECRETARY TANCO'S LETTER HAD NOT BEEN RECEIVED AND SENT EMBASSY A COPY OF LETTER HE WAS ADDRESSING TO MUELLER WHICH READS AS FOLLOWS:
QUOTE. DEAR MR. MUELLER: I WAS SURPRISED TO HAVE
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RECEIVED A CALL FROM MR. KEN EUBANKS FOLLOWING UP THE

LETTER OF SECRETARY TANCO ON THE PROPOSED ACTIVITIES
OF THE AGRIBUSINESS COUNCIL INC. I REMEMBER HAVING
SEEN SUCH A LETTER PREPARED WAY BACK IN EARLY JUNE.
IT MUST THEREFORE BE PRESUPPOSED THAT THE LETTER
EITHER GOT LOST OR MISPLACED. I HAVE ASKED SECRETARY
TANCO TO SIGN A TRUE COPY OF THE LETTER. INASMUCH
AS IT MIGHT BE IMPOSSIBLE FOR THE ACTIVITIES TO START
IN MID-AUGUST AS STIPULATED IN THE LETTER, WE SUGGEST
CONSIDERATION OF THE MATTER MIDDLE OF OCTOBER AS AN
ALTERNATIVE DATE. LOOKING FORWARD TO YOUR ACTION ON
THIS MATTER. VERY TRULY YOURS, MIGUEL M. ZOSA,
ASSISTANT SECRETARY. END QUOTE.
SULLIVAN

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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